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MT. ADAMS WILDERNESS

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SEP 29 1965

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GIFFORD PINCHOT *National Forest*

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service — Pacific Northwest Region

Routes to the Mt. Adams Wilderness

FROM THE NORTH

Follow State Highway 14 to Randle. At Randle, drive south to Forest Road No. 123 and continue south on 123 through the Forest to the junction of Forest Road No. 101 for access to these trails.

Trail No. 2000, Cascade Crest Trail

From road 1/4 mile east of Midway Guard Station. The Cascade Crest Trail traverses the Wilderness north and south.

Trail No. 113, Killen Creek Trail

Near Killen Creek Campground. The trail crosses road 101 about 1/4 mile west of Killen Creek and meets Trail No. 2000 about 2 miles from road 101. From this junction, an unimproved trail continues southeast to the High Camp.

Trail No. 112, Divide Camp Trail

From road 101 about 2 miles east of Takhlakh Campground. The trail follows the middle fork of Adams Creek and climbs rapidly for about 1-1/2 miles to Trail No. 2000.

FROM THE SOUTH

Drive on U. S. Highway 830 to White Salmon. Turn north and follow State Highway 121 to Trout Lake. Follow Forest Road N80 to Road N81 which will lead you to Morrison Creek and Timberline Campgrounds.

Trail No. 2000, Cascade Crest Trail

The Crest Trail crosses Forest Road N84 about 12 miles north of Trout Lake. From this point, it is approximately two miles to the Wilderness.

Trail No. 9, Round-the-Mountain Trail

From Morrison Creek, Timberline and Bird Creek Meadows Campgrounds. Horse vans and trailers should not be taken beyond Morrison Creek Campground on Road N81 or Mirror Lake Campground, Road N80, because of steep grades. Travel with heavy vehicles beyond these points is hazardous and causes excessive damage to the roadway.



MT. ADAMS WILDERNESS

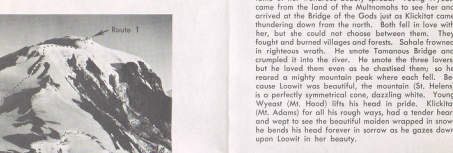
The Mt. Adams Wilderness, named for the peak which is the dominant feature of its 42,411 acres, lies along the eastern edge of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and adjacent to the Yakima Indian Reservation. Good mountain roads approach to within about one mile of the boundary on the south and northwest sides, making it unnecessary to travel far on foot to reach the Wilderness. Trails lead into the area and meet with the Round-the-Mountain and Cascade Creek Trails. Average elevation within the Wilderness is about 5,500 feet, approximately 500 feet below the absolute baseline. Some of this country is particularly rugged, especially on the east face of the mountain where the appropriately named Hallelorn Creek heads among the glaciers. The Ridge of Wonders, created by lava flows from Mt. Adams, lies between Hallelorn and Big Muddy Creeks. The area has numerous unexcitable convolutes which present a scene of chaotic devastation. Little Mt. Adams, a secondary cone thrown up after the main eruption of Mt. Adams, stands in the midst of all this havoc. It is a volcano in miniature, having a crater circle with an unbroken wall about 100 yards in diameter.

This magnificent mountain land was designated a Wild Area in 1942 by the Chief of the U. S. Forest Service. With the signing of the Wilderness Act in 1964, it became one of the first units of the new National Wilderness Preservation System.

Although recreational opportunities are emphasized, the area is also important for wildlife, water and forage. The history of grazing while what is now the Wilderness began before 1900. Limited numbers of cattle and sheep are still permitted to graze portions of the area.

Mt. Adams

Mt. Adams — 12,266 feet — is second only to Mt. Rainier in height and bulk among Washington's peaks. Because of its comparative isolation and distance from major



Climbers Guide (American Alpine Club)

The first ascent of Mt. Adams was by A. G. Allen, E. J. Allen, A. J. Burke and B. F. Shaw in 1841.

ROUTE 1 — South Side Road, Morrison Creek to Cold Springs Camp.

Begin at roads and approximately 2 miles beyond Cold Springs Camp. From creek, trail leads up mountain to a large snowfield, ascend snowfield, bearing right to ridge. Follow ridge to false summit. Ascend last 600 ft. slope via zig-zag trail in punice or, if snow covered, keep to the left. A 1/2 mile to 6 hours up, no difficulties.

ROUTE 2 — North Cleaver Road, Killen Creek Camp.

Take a mile trail and High Camp at Timberline. Cross large snowfield to left and follow to wide saddle. Follow ridge to north and in snowdrifts on right side of ridge, skirting lower edge of timberline. A broad dipping hillside leads to the snowfield, clear ahead. Follow the cleaver, occasionally skirting some of the high points, to a lower part of the ice cap. The cleaver lies in a north-south direction between Adams and Lone Glaciers. A bearing of due south across the summit dome leads to the summit. Time: 10 to 12 hours from the road, 3 hours down.

ROUTE 3 — Adams Glacier Road, Killen Creek.

From end of Killen Creek trail climb over west and north facing ridge and then descend to lower edge of Adams Glacier keeping south of ridge crest. From 7,000 ft. of the base to 8,800 ft., continue southeast on easy gradient for 1 1/2 miles to crest between north ridge and northeast ridge (5-6 hours from the road). Ascend ledges to summit down. The ascent involves occasional 35-40 degree slopes requiring crampons. Time: 9 to 12 hours from road. Climb is preferable in early summer.

ROUTE 4 — Killen Creek Road, Bird Creek Meadows.

This glacier descends from the ice-cap southeast of the mountain, on the south side of Battlement Ridge, and supplies the Big Muddy Creek of the Killen River. The approach is made by Big Muddy Meadows. Camp can be made at the 8,000 ft. elevation on the ridge separating the Mazzano and Killen Glaciers (3 hours from the road). Traverse snowfields to glacier, before hanging (scull) half above, for far north side of Killen Glacier. Ascend the crest of the narrow, steep upper portion of the glacier avoiding possible rockfall cliffs and avalanche chutes on either side, and a high cliff above on the left. At the top of steep slope, stay on the right (north) side, under "Cattle" to avoid ice cliffs on the left. Walk to east end of the summit ridge and to the top. Take ice piten and hard knots. It is suggested that the climb be made during the early hours early in the season. Time: 5 to 8 hours to "Cattle", 2 hours more to the summit.

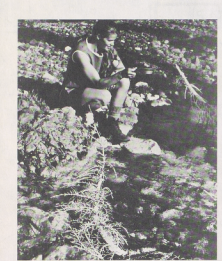
Wilderness Exploring

Whether hiking new trails or exploring trailless wilderness, you will find each trip has its own rewards. Here are a few suggestions:

OAT BUTTE For experienced hikers (12 miles)

From Killen Creek Trail No. 113 and 3000

An old lookout cabin tops this 7,484-foot peak on Adams' east side. Avalanche Valley and the Ridge of Wonders to the south are thought by many to be the most beautiful portions of the Wilderness. The cabin was built by the Forest Service in 1921. Mating equipment included a Model-T engine to run the mill. The engine was winched to the top of the mountain and hauled to foot in places, but the view is worth the effort. If one wishes to continue around the mountain, it is necessary to travel cross-country. Approximately 12,000 horse trips were made to the summit before mining activity ceased in 1927.



High Camp and Adams Ice Fall. Overnight (12 miles)

Trail No. 113 south — continue south from Cascade Crest Trail Junction

The Adams Glacier plunges down the northwest side of Mt. Adams, forming a jumble of ice blocks. At timberline, whereback pine trees, easily recognized by their whorled, irregular form, provide a sheltered spot to make camp. The small stream appear to run uphill as they cross heater-covered benches. Directly to the south is the North Cleaver Ridge. To the southwest is the Adams Ice Fall.

BIRD CREEK MEADOWS One day round-trip (3 miles)

West from Bird Creek Meadows Camp

Follow Round-the-Mountain Trail No. 9, for about 1 1/2 miles. The open, rolling country makes pleasant hiking and the beautiful meadows have a large variety of wild flowers.

SALT CREEK LEAD/LOOKINGGLASS LAKE Overnight (8 1/2 miles)

Trail No. 9 west from Timberline Campground

The trail crosses Crown Ridge and drops gradually into Salt Creek. Small trees, engulfed when the creek's course changed, are caked with salt. The water occasionally has a salty taste. From Salt Creek, the trail climbs to small open meadows and Lookingglass Lake. The lake supports eastern brook trout and offers fish catching and a unique reflection of Mt. Adams.

Geology

Mt. Adams was formed by volcanic eruptions of ash and cinder, accompanied by flows of basaltic and andesitic lavas. The flows issued from a central vent creating a wide based cone. The northern broad, irregular appearance of the summit area is probably due to the occurrence of several different vents. Geological points of interest include the many vents, blowholes and caves scattered around the sides of the mountain. Hydrogen sulfide gas issues from crevasses near the summit and large deposits of sulphur cover the crater floor.

Unusual lava formations are evidence of the area's violent volcanic history.



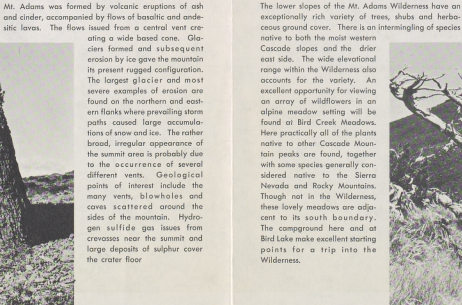
A camp with a view — Araratash Valley.



Little Mt. Adams, a tiny cone — a volcano in miniature

Wild Flowers and Vegetation

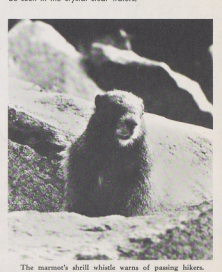
The lower slopes of the Mt. Adams Wilderness have an exceptionally rich variety of trees, shrubs and herbaceous ground cover. There is an intermingling of species native to both the moist western and the arid Cascade slopes and the drier east side. The wide elevational range within the Wilderness also accounts for variety. An excellent opportunity for viewing an array of wildflowers is an alpine meadow setting will be found at Bird Creek Meadows.



Many flowers — one of many wild flowers found in the alpine meadows.

Wildlife

The wildlife service of the Mt. Adams Wilderness is as varied and interesting as the country itself. The high elevations are home for the marmot and pikas which live in the talus slopes above high mountain meadows. The ptarmigan, brown in the summer and white in the winter, is another species of the summer snowline. Wild goats, once numerous on Mt. Adams, disappeared many years ago. Recently, however, a goat was seen on the southeast side of the mountain. Coyotes range over the entire area and will usually be heard in chime on a summer evening. If you are lucky you may glimpse a black bear in its berry patches, and blackballed deer on an occasional elk browsing in the meadows. Blue and ruffed grouse are abundant for a short season during the winter berries and tender plant shoots are of a palatable stage. Most of the lakes in the Wilderness are shallow or lack the proper food to support fish. However, eastern brook trout have been planted in Lookingglass Lake and small schools of these fish can be seen in the crystal clear waters.



The marmot's shrill whistle warns of passing hikers.

Plants

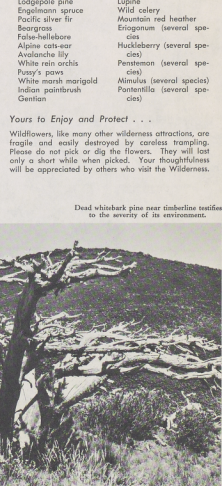
The short summer season begins abruptly during July and ends with equal abruptness in August. A few of the trees and flowers which can be seen are:

- Mountain hemlock
- Alpine fir
- Whitebark pine
- Lodgepole pine
- Engelmann spruce
- Pacific silver fir
- Begonias
- Fawn-hellbore
- Alpine cat-ar
- Avalanche lily
- White rein orchis
- Pussy's paws
- White marsh marigold
- Pentstemon
- Centaurion
- Pinks
- Mountain daisy
- Lupines
- Lupine
- Wild celery
- Mountain red heather
- Ergonum (several species)
- Huckleberry (several species)
- Pentstemon (several species)
- Potentilla (several species)

Yours to Enjoy and Protect . . .

Wildflowers, like many other wilderness attractions, are fragile and easily destroyed by careless tramping. Please do not step on or dig the flowers. They will last only a short while when picked. Your thoughtfulness will be appreciated by others who visit the Wilderness.

Dead wildlife pike near timberline southeast to the vicinity of the crest.



Safe Travel in the Wilderness

Before you start your wilderness trip, let someone you propose to go with know where and when you will be. Be sure to let them know you have returned.

Camp in a safe place and compass where they can be easily used. Consult your frequently to identify prominent features whenever you reach a viewpoint. Knowledge of your route and the Wilderness will make your trip more interesting and will be of invaluable aid should you become lost or confused.

Shortcutting through meadows and walking with eyes glued to the trail, past trail signs commonly lead to confusion. Make a habit of seeing the trail signs and landmarks and keep aware of your direction of travel. Should you become lost, STOP. Use your map and compass to determine where you are wrong. Remember these rules:

1. Keep calm. Do not walk aimlessly. Trust your map and compass. Make a camp near water. Remember, without water you can live only a few days, without food you can live for weeks.
2. To find your position, climb to a place where you can see the surrounding terrain.
3. If injured, keep calm. Stay where you are. Clear an area down to mineral soil and build a signal fire. Put green boughs on it to create smoke. You will be found.
4. Three signals of any kind, either audible or visible, is the nationwide SOS call in the mountains. Signal by three blasts from a whistle or three shots from a gun; three regulated puffs of smoke; or three flashes from a mirror or flashlight. Repeat at regular intervals. When the sign is recognized by a search party, it will be covered by two signals. Use this SOS call only when actually in need of help.
5. Remember, Do Not Panic!

Where to Camp

One of the most interesting and challenging parts of your wilderness visit will be selecting and preparing your camp. Often you will find that the usual suggestions for choosing the location well, setting up camp will be easy and enjoyable. Several camps are marked on your map, but there are many more.

In picking a campsite, look for drinking water, fuel wood and shelter. For full enjoyment, hold out for a good view when possible. Pick the tent where it will receive morning sun, so it can dry out standing before it is packed. Note the wind direction in deciding which way to face. The wind will blow from a lake onto the shore and down a canyon of night in reverse during the day.

Leave your complete camp. Good sites will be used by others, and the next party will appreciate your thoughtfulness.



Remember — only YOU can prevent forest fires!

Protect Your Wilderness

The Mt. Adams Wilderness is in a very delicate state of ecological balance. A thoughtless act could easily upset this balance and cause irreparable damage. Please leave it as you would like to find it attractive, clean and natural. Please follow these rules:

1. Be careful with fire.
2. Do not smoke while hiking or riding, but rather stop at a safe place and extinguish your smoke before leaving.
3. Carefully extinguish your campfire with water and soil with mineral soil. Do not bury live fire with dirt.
4. Carry a campfire with water and soil with mineral soil. Do not bury live fire with dirt.
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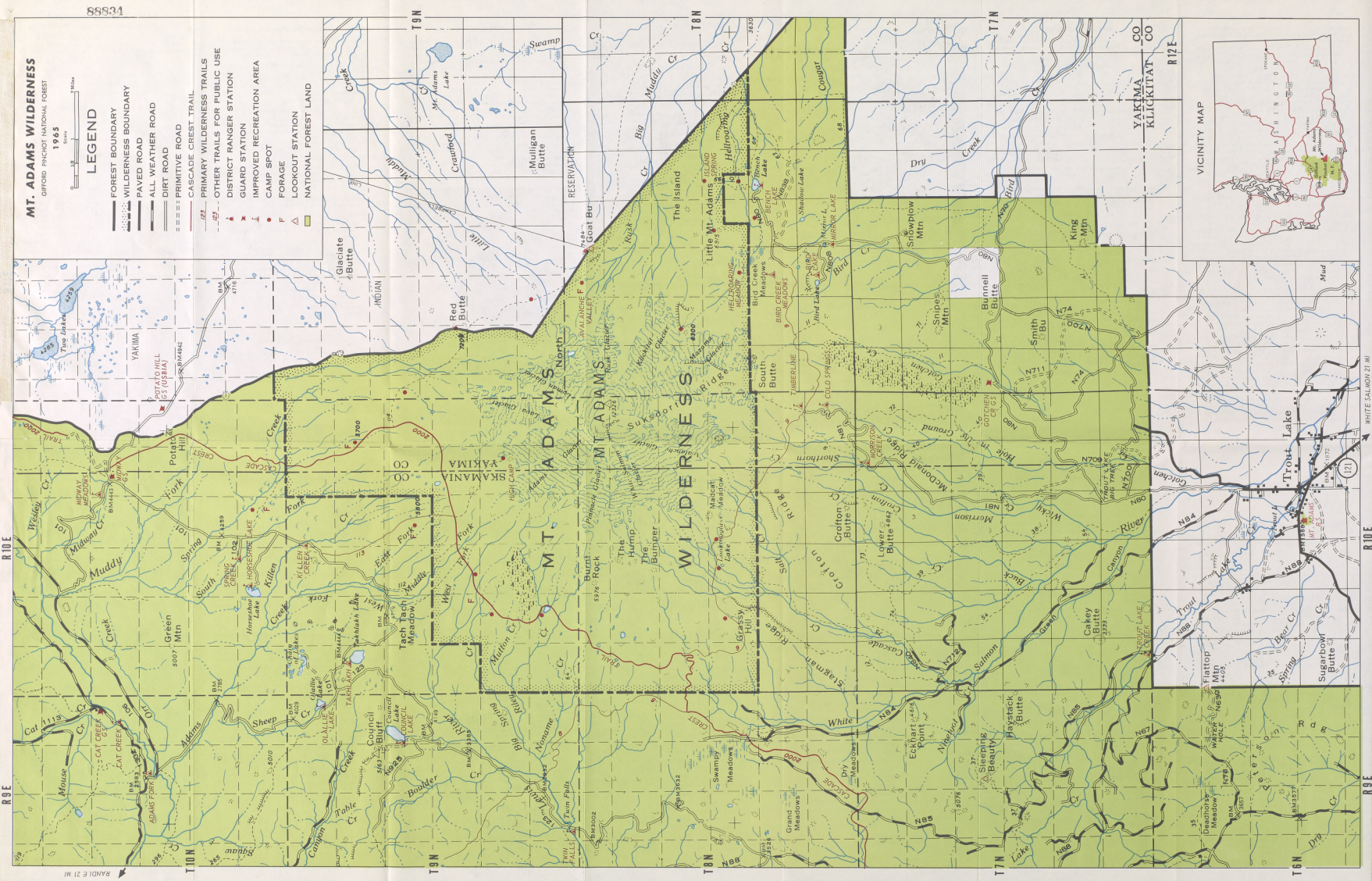
GIFFORD PINCHOT NATIONAL FOREST

1965

Scale

LEGEND

- FOREST BOUNDARY
- WILDERNESS BOUNDARY
- PAVED ROAD
- ALL WEATHER ROAD
- DIRT ROAD
- PRIMITIVE ROAD
- CASCADE CREST TRAIL
- PRIMARY WILDERNESS TRAILS
- OTHER TRAILS FOR PUBLIC USE
- DISTRICT RANGER STATION
- GUARD STATION
- IMPROVED RECREATION AREA
- CAMP SPOT
- FORAGE
- LOOKOUT STATION
- NATIONAL FOREST LAND



VICINITY MAP

MT. ADAMS WILDERNESS

U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM
GIFFORD PINCHOT
FOREST SERVICE



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From road 1/4 mile east of Midway Guard Station. The Cascade Crest Trail traverses the Wilderness north and south.

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New Killen Creek Campground. The trail crosses road 101 about 1/4 mile west of Killen Creek and meets Trail No. 2000 about 2 miles from road 101. From this junction, an unimproved trail continues southeast to the High Camp.

Trail No. 112, Divide Camp Trail

From road 101 about 2 miles east of Tachemuck Campground. The trail follows the middle fork of Adams Creek and climbs rapidly for about 1-1/2 miles to Trail No. 2000.

FROM THE SOUTH

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